The Frederick

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Employe of murdered antique car

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ROCKVILLE — Montgomery County Police fear foul play in the disappearance of an employe of a 37-year-old Derwood man whose gangland-style murder is now under investigation.

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In addition, the death of a woman in Chicago on July 21, may provide another link in the growing mystery of possible underworld activities spanning several states.

Pat Sherman, who worked for Eugene M. Carrafa at Gino's Classic Cars in Abingdon, Md., has not been seen in that area since the middle of July. According to the Abingdon Post Office, mail for Sherman has been piling up for "several weeks."

Employes of an inn frequented by Sherman said the last time they saw him he had been drinking heavily and said something about being fired or quitting. Police have been unsuccessful in locating Sherman for questioning.

Carrafa's bloated body, wrapped in padlocked chains, washed up off Staten Island, N.Y., on Aug. 4, three days after his wife, Carol, who lives at 7828 Briardale Terrace, Derwood, reported him missing. Montgomery's Organized Crime Unit entered the case at the request of the New York Police Department.

Authorities here said earlier this week that they were interested in certain similarities between Carrafa's death,

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dealer is missing

and that of John Roselli, whose body was recelty discovered floating in an oil drum off Biscayne Bay, Fla. (See related AP story, page 1).

In Washington, a spokesman for the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence has acknowledged that the committee is "interested" in Carrafa's murder and may initiate a probe into its possible connection with Roselli's murder.

A known Chicago mobster, Roselli testified before the committee last year during its investigation of the CIA's part in attempts to assassinate Cuban leader Fidel Castro.

Although the death of Janice Mae Piccerelli in Chicago on July 21 has been listed as a suicide, sources said she was known to have traveled in racketeering circles there. Carrafa, Mrs. Piccerelli's former husband, and Jay Knohl, Carrafa's partner, all served in the Marine Corps together, according to sources.

Mrs. Piccerelli's associations with the Mafia led as high as Sam (Momo) Giancana's "lieutenants," sources said, in whose company she was also seen. Giancana was also murdered, in his Chicago home, one week before he was slated to testify about the Castro assassination plot.

Mrs. Piccerelli was buried from the Hines Rinaldi Funeral Home in Silver Spring on July 26. In a small obituary notice, her daughter, Cathleen Hanley, is listed as living in Orlando, Fla.

Carrafa's brother, Matthew, said in a telephone interview from his home in Waterbury, Conn., Wednesday, that the last time he saw Gino alive was on July 23, when he visited his brother

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Employe

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Derwood's home on the way back from vacation near Orlando.

In New York last week, Carrafa's partner in Classic Cars, Jay Knohl, was arrested and held in jail for two or three days on charges of sodomy. He has since been released on $150,000 bond, police said, noting that the bond was exceedingly "high" for the crime.

Knohl's brother, David, lives in a red brick colonial at 17929 Archwood Way, Olney, but children answering the door Friday said that their parents were in Connecticut for Carrafa's funeral, and would return today.

At the time she reported him missing, Mrs. Carrafa told police that her husband had left for New York to see Knohl, a resident of Seagste, N.Y., on July 28. Later, she said, Knohl called her to say Carrafa was on his way to California to look into the purchase of an antique car, and would be gone several days.

Just prior to the New York trip, on July 23, three antique cars valued at $183,000 were stolen from Classic Cars. Police said Carrafa reported the theft and that he had insurance on the vehicles. Montgomery police are centering their investigation upon that aspect currently.

Stolen were a 1935 grey Packard convertible with red wheels and a tan top; a 1931 brown Cadillac convertible with tan fenders and top, and a 1954 white Mercedes Benz convertible with a black top.